



# **Violence and Injury Prevention Project on the United States – México border (VIP Project)**

## **Technical and Financial Report**

**FIRST QUARTER  
(January-March 2011)**

USAID Technical Office, Education and Health USAID México

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**Grantee:** Pan American Health Organization, World Health Organization Regional Office (PAHO/WHO)

**Coordinator:** Dra. Maria Teresa Cerqueira, Chief, Office for the PAHO/WHO United States – México border.

## **Quarterly Technical Report**

### **Report period: January 1 to March 31, 2011**

#### **Summary:**

Once Phase I was finalized, the Work Plan for phase II was presented for approval however, due to various modifications and adaptations of the proposal, its implementation has not been able to commence.

The first quarter of 2011 has been worked through various branches, as the strengthening of the role of the project has been in various spaces. Specifically, the subgroups of the Health Committee, furthermore, have been generated various work meetings with local actors in order to urge the strengthening of the datum sources and the restructuring of the Committee of Public Policies of the Observatory of Social Safety and Living Together.

Due to these delays, the costs for this quarter were less than what was expected.

#### **VIP Project activities during the period January to March, 2011**

##### **I. Administrative activities:**

###### **a. Personnel:**

During this period, the Violence Prevention and Injuries Consultant was the only one hired. The contract was to take effect on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

From 01/01/11 to 03/31/11, the project had the support of two administrative assistants from El Paso, TX and from Cd. Juarez, Chihuahua.

Furthermore, during this quarter, interviews were conducted in order to cover the Consultant posting of Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

###### **b. Coordination and communication:** **Meetings of the project:**

On 7 February, there was a work meeting in Cd. Juarez, Chihuahua, between the staff of PAHO/WHO and CONAPRA.

###### **Meetings with Partners of the community:**

On February 8<sup>th</sup>, there was a monthly meeting of the Subgroup of Mental Health of the Health Committee. The meeting mainly relied on the presentation of the requirements of the work group that would be shown before the federal and state health secretaries at the meeting of the Health Council, which would be carried out on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, there was a work meeting with Katherine O'Connor at the facilities of the University of Texas at El Paso in the Nursing School, with the purpose of adding it as a Co-convening to the workshop, "Prevention of Sexual Violence within a Couple", taking place in El Paso, Texas at the end of the month of May.

Also, on February 22<sup>nd</sup> there was workshop called "100 Actions by Juarez", convened by the foundation 'This Country and Community Cohesion and Social Innovation' carried out in the installations of the Autonomous University of Ciudad Juarez. The purpose of this participation was to find coincidences and explore the possibility of partnerships within the job that such organizations would carry out in Juarez.

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, there was a a job visit to the personnel of El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, for the purpose of discussing various points related to the functionality of the Observatory of Social Safety and Living Together. The result of the visit was various recommendations to be evaluated by the directing council.

The Sub Mental Health group on had a meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup> in the installations of Human Growth and Education for La Paz, A.C for the purpose of finalizing details for the work session of 3 days that would be carried out in the city of Ruidoso, New Mexico, in which would be drafted the Regulatory Plan for Mental Health, which would be part of the priorities of the project VIP.

On March 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>, there was a meeting at the Retreat for preparation of the Regulatory Plan of Mental Health for Juarez. There was participation from the authorities in the matter of the three levels of government and organizations of civil society. There were actions taken for the purpose of integrating the group, as well as the construction of the mission, vision, and objectives; pending the definition of concrete projects. PAHO/WHO supported the participants with a grant to cover food expenditures.

On March 17<sup>th</sup>, a meeting of approximation with the subgroup of statistics of the Citizen Safety Committee was coordinated. The VIP project personnel participated, as well as the Secretary Technical of the Safety Observatory and Harmony Social. The purpose of the meeting was to share information and impressions on the indicators that currently measure the Observatory and those which the subgroup was interested in evaluating. It was agreed to have, over the next days, a work meeting in order to share more information of interest for both parties.

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, the public presentation of the project "Asi Somos Juarez", System of Indicators of Quality of Life obtained assistance. The event was held in Juarez with a great convocation, and the intention of participating was to find coincidences with the Observatory, however, it was not possible since indicators were not presented. This was only an initial approximation to the project.

On March 29<sup>th</sup> the Collegiate Center of Psychological Attention of the School of Hardy Psychologists of the District, A.C was inaugurated. Its principal objective is the psychological attention to the general public. Such association is part of Mental Health group and, will be one of the institutions benefited from the interventions that will carry out the VIP Project with regard to Mental Health.

On March 29th, the personnel of the Project VIP participated in the meeting of the Health Council, including the participation of various public and private institutions, as well as organizations of civil society. This monthly meeting was carried out for the purpose of reviewing the advances in the fulfillment of the commitments. The representative of the Secretary of Federal Health greeted with approval the participation of the VIP Project within the Health Council, leaving pendent the strategies of technical collaboration definitions to the extent that the Regulatory Plan of Mental Health gets concluded.

### **Meetings with personnel of USAID:**

On February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> there was a work meeting between the staff of PAHO/WHO, CONAPRA, and USAID for the purpose of working to detail the objectives of the Work Plan of the Phase II. Both, the general objective and the specific objectives 1 and 2, were voted by the three entities and approved. Given that objective 3 was the only objective that was not finished, PAHO/WHO was designated in to prepare a proposal for it.

ON March 22<sup>nd</sup> there was a teleconference between the staff of PAHO/WHO, CONAPRA, and USAID.

### **Status of activity technical:**

Since the PHASE II of the project has not been approved, interventions have not been carried out in field.

## **II. Opportunities:**

- a.** At the end of this first quarter of 2011, the opportunities have been significantly anticipated. Beginning February 1<sup>st</sup>, the Consultant in Violence Prevention and Injuries was incorporated, and was given flexibility to various pendent issues, among them, the adjustments to the reports of the Phase I. Also, as the result of the various meetings in Mexico City and via telephone, the hastening to the modifications to the Proposal of Phase II. Furthermore, in the month of March, Dr. Sergio Pacheco was appointed as the new Technical Secretary of the Observatory of Social Safety and Living Together, whereby a re-launch of the scope of it is projected.
- b.** With regard to the relation of social actors, upon being incorporated as the Consultant in Violence Prevention and Injuries, new dialogue fronts have been able to be hedged, which has permitted an approximation with academics and social leaders of Juarez that were not linked to the project, and that have now been added to it.
- c.** Finally, the recruitment of the next Consultant in Mental Health and Addictions is pending, thereby may participate decisively in the subgroup of Mental Health and Addictions of the Health Council, with what will be the goal to incorporate new actors to the VIP Project.

### **III. Possible barriers and areas of concern:**

- a.** The area of more significant concern it is the fact that the proposal of Phase II has not been concluded, although work has been conducted in the enhancement of the proposal; this has had a delay of over 3 months, and therefore a great quantity of hours has been invested in working hours for the adaptation of various activities, the amounts and the times that will carry out the interventions.
- b.** In this same sense, an area of concern is the preparation of the Plan of Monitoring and Evaluation of the Phase II, which is at its draft stage and cannot be defined since it goes directly related to the approval of Phase II, that is, to the extent that the Phase II is not approved, it is an investment in work hours.

### **IV. Engagement within various actors and institutions**

- Secretaría de Salud Federal
- Secretaría de Salud Estatal
- Dirección de Salud Municipal
- Centro Caritativo para Atención de Enfermos de SIDA, A.C.
- Colegio de Psicólogos del Distrito Bravos, A.C.
- Centro de Asesoría y Atención a la Familia, A.C.
- Centro de Crecimiento Humano y Educación para la Paz, A.C.
- Salud y Bienestar Comunitario, A.C.
- Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez.
- Universidad de Texas en El Paso
- El Colegio de la Frontera Norte

**Key dates of the VIP Project (first quarter):**

**JANUARY:**

01/27-30      Workshop SAFE (Francisco Miguel Arrieta attended)

**FEBRUARY**

02/07           Meeting with Dr. Cervantes in Juarez

02/09-10       Meeting with USAID and CONAPRA in the City of México

02/24-25       Meeting with USAID and CONAPRA in Mexico City (monitoring)

**MARCH:**

03/07-09       Meeting with the head subgroup of Health Mental in Noisy,  
SL. (Dr. Cerqueira and Mr. R. Soto attended)